



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

September 25, 2007

The Honorable Board of Directors
Los Angeles County
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**AMEND THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY'S PROJECT LIST
PURSUANT TO SECTION (3), SUBSECTION (d) OF THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD
PARKS PROPOSITION OF 1996, ALLOCATE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
SPECIFIED EXCESS GRANT FUNDS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LAND
FOR THE COASTAL SLOPE TRAIL AND
AUTHORIZE ADMINISTRATION OF EXCESS FUNDS GRANTS
(THIRD DISTRICT - 3 - VOTE MATTER)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Amend the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's project list, most recently amended by your Board on August 21, 2007, to add the acquisition of property for the Coastal Slope Trail in Malibu.
2. Allocate Third Supervisorial District Specified Excess Funds in the amount of up to \$4,617,000 to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the Coastal Slope Trail Acquisition Project.
3. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants to the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority for the above acquisitions when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grants as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) is requesting your Board's approval to add the proposed acquisition of the Coastal Slope Trail parcels to its project list so that the Conservancy can use funds allocated pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition) as part of the funding for the acquisition of some or all of the 12 parcels identified in Attachment A.

Additionally, approval of the recommended actions will allocate up to \$4,617,000 in Specified Excess Funds allocated to the Third Supervisorial District to the Conservancy for the acquisition of some or all of the parcels identified in Attachment A. The project will be administered by the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA) on behalf of the Conservancy as authorized in the Conservancy's Procedural Guide adopted by your Board on June 17, 1997.

The proposed project consists of the acquisition of up to 85.58 acres of land in Malibu to add to the Coastal Slope Trail. The Coastal Slope Trail alignment extends from Topanga State Park in the east to the Ventura County line in the west. The proposed acquisitions focus on the trail section that connects the National Park Service's Zuma-Trancas Unit with Escondido Canyon Park and then to Latigo Canyon Road. The trail also ties Ramirez Canyon Park into this chain of connected parklands. The proposed acquisitions are located in the Ramirez, Escondido, and Latigo Canyon watersheds. The acquisitions will add key sections to this regionally significant trail corridor and secure high quality coastal habitat and public viewshed.

Funding for the acquisitions will include approximately \$281,445 (exact amount to be determined by Treasurer Tax Collector on or about October 1, 2007), from the \$22,750,000 allocated to the Conservancy under Section (3), Subsection (d) of the 1996 Proposition, already advanced to the Conservancy and held in a trust account with the Office of Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC). In addition to the approximately \$281,445 from the TTC trust account and up to \$4,617,000 of Excess Funds, the project will be funded by various other funding sources that will be determined as the acquisition of individual parcels is negotiated.

The acquisition of one of the parcels has already been negotiated and escrow for the transaction is scheduled to close early in October of 2007.

It is also recommended that the Director of Parks and Recreation be authorized to award grants to the MRCA, when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications and consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, grantee compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the project, and to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by your Board.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The proposed actions further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal No. 1 (Service Excellence), Goal No. 4 (Fiscal Responsibility), Goal No. 5 (Children and Family Well-being), and Goal No. 6 (Community Services) by funding the acquisition of additional protected open space land for trails in the Malibu portion of the Santa Monica Mountains.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient funds, up to \$4,617,000 identified for the project, are appropriated in the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space Districts' Excess Funds Fund (HD6) under Other Charges in the Third Supervisorial District's Specified Excess Funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition requires that funds provided to the Conservancy be expended "solely for projects approved by the Board, pursuant to such criteria as the Board may, in its discretion, adopt," provided that those projects are identified in the Conservancy's annual work program transmitted to the Governor and State Legislature and as may be amended from time to time, after a noticed public hearing. Following these procedures, the acquisition projects in Attachment A were added to the annual work program in September of 2000 and August of 2007.

The 1996 Proposition further provides that your Board may disapprove a project within the boundaries of a city only upon a finding that the acquisition or improvement may impact access to or use of a site identified or proposed for present or future sanitary landfill purposes. In addition, your Board previously has adopted procedural requirements requiring a review of proposed Conservancy projects relative to their impact on existing or proposed highways, and their consistency with General or Area Plans.

The proposed acquisition projects meet the procedural requirements of the 1996 Proposition and have been reviewed in accordance with the Conservancy's revised Procedural Guide, adopted by your Board on June 17, 1997.

The Department of Public Works has found that the project would not negatively impact current or potential future County sanitary landfill sites (Attachment B).

Department of Public Works did, however, find in its review of the impact on any planned County roads or highways that one parcel submitted for its review impacted a major highway (see Attachment C). Parcel APN 4467-002-060 fronts Kanan Dume Road, and DPW recommends slope easements should be dedicated to the County for road purposes. MRCA is willing to provide the necessary slope easements as a condition of the acquisition of this parcel.

The Department of Regional Planning researched the list of proposed parcels for acquisition, consulted with County Counsel and noted no inconsistencies or lack of conformity between the parcels and their status relative to the applicable county planning documents (see Attachment D.)

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grants would be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District from Excess Funds available for specified projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation would be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Conservancy's Procedural Guide approved by your Board in 1997 and used since then for the administration of similar grant projects. Prior to execution, the Grant Project Agreements will be reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Your Board's approval of this recommendation will authorize the Director to award grants to the MRCA for the acquisition of the property for the Coastal Slope Trail. It will have no impact on any other District-funded projects.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed actions are not subject to CEQA in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Sections 15378 (b)(4)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines, because the actions are administrative activities for government grants which by their terms do not involve any commitments to any specific projects which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

All projects funded by the District are also required to comply with CEQA. The MRCA is the lead agency for the acquisition project, and as such, is responsible for appropriate environmental documentation for the projects.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

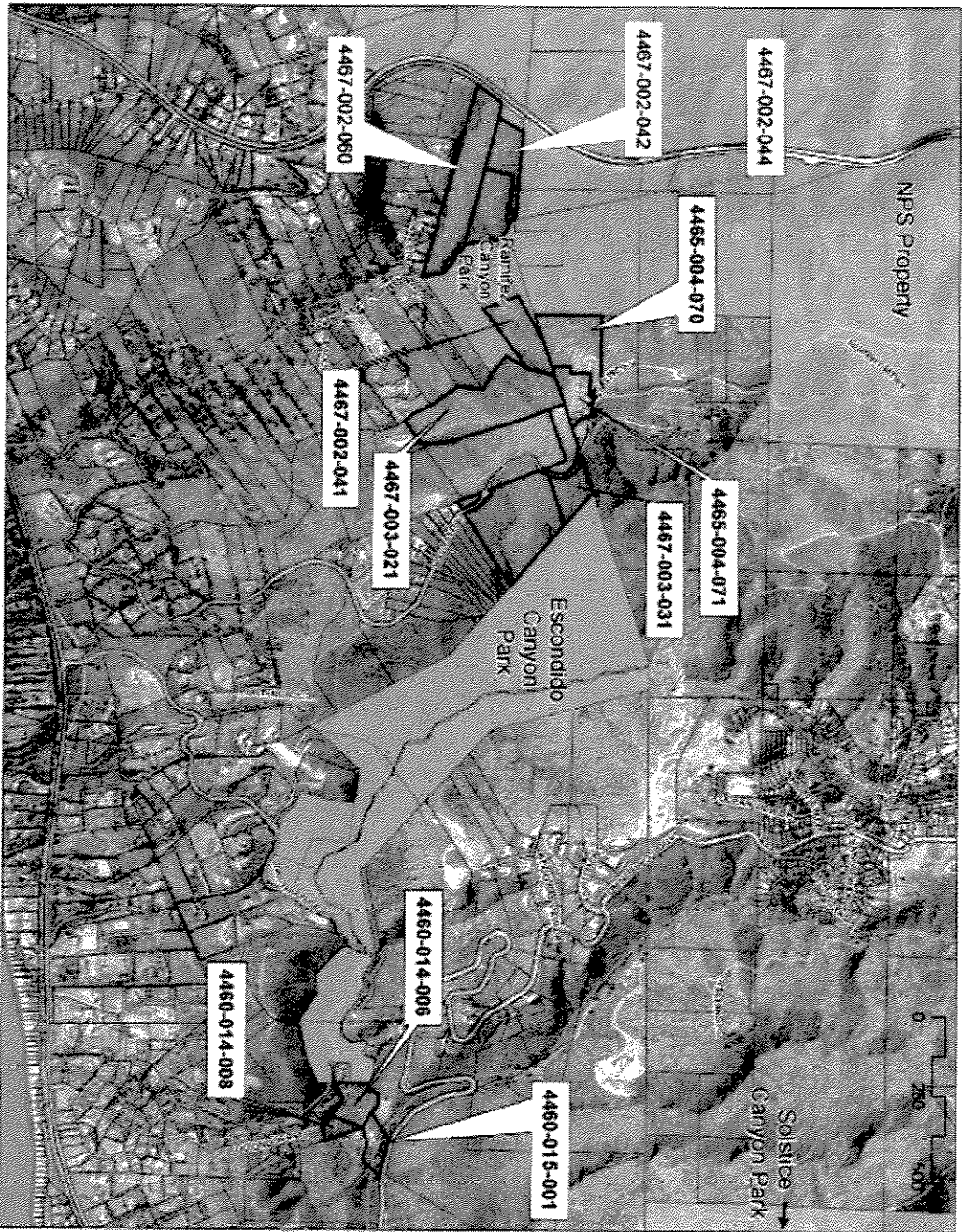
Attachments (4)

RG:IV:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPOCEDISTRICT(Coastal Slope Trail BL)

c: Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (30)
County Counsel

MRCA 3rd District Coastal Slope Trail Parcels

Number	APN	Acres
1	4465-004-070	8.00
2	4465-004-071	3.40
3	4467-002-041	5.89
4	4467-003-044	15.86
5	4467-003-021	16.29
6	4467-003-031	5.96
7	4460-014-006	3.13
8	4460-014-008	1.21
9	4460-015-001	2.01
10	4467-002-060	13.49
11	4467-002-042	4.10
12	4467-002-044	6.19
	Totals	85.53





DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

300 SOUTH GLENDALE AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91801-1300
Telephone: (626) 458-1100
<http://www.facounty.gov>

Attachment 3

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1490
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91801-1460

ALSO TRY TO ASK
BETTER TOGETHER **EP-2**

August 1, 2007

TO: Russ Guiney
Director of Parks and Recreation

Attention Ilone Volkmann
Regional Park and Open Space District

FROM: Donald L. Wolfe ^{DLW}
Director of Public Works

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY REQUEST FOR NEW ACQUISITION PROJECTS

As requested on July 19, 2007, we have reviewed the proposed property acquisition by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Our review was limited to the impact of the proposed acquisition on the solid waste disposal system in Los Angeles County. Based on the information provided, we have found that the proposed acquisition of the properties listed below will not negatively impact the solid waste disposal system.

<u>Parcel Number</u>	<u>Parcel Number</u>	<u>Parcel Number</u>
4465-004-070	4465-004-071	4467-003-044
4467-003-021	4467-003-031	4467-002-041
4460-014-006	4460-014-008	4460-015-001
4467-002-060	4467-002-042	4467-002-044

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Fred Rubin at (626) 458-3500, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

SAIDP:cw

Project Request on Website July 26, 2007.doc



DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH PLEASANT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5160
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

Attachment C

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

July 31, 2007

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE LD-4

Ms. Ilona Volkmann, Administrator
Los Angeles County Regional Park
and Open Space District
510 South Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90020-1975

Dear Ms. Volkmann:

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY'S REQUEST FOR A NEW ACQUISITION PROJECT


Thank you for the opportunity to review the list of parcels proposed for potential acquisition by the Conservancy.

None of the parcels with the exception of APN 4467-002-060 are impacted by County highways. APN 4467-002-060 fronts Kanan Dume Road, a major highway on the Los Angeles County Highway Plan. Slope easements should be dedicated to the County for road purposes.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Muhammad Ali at (626) 458-4919 or Mr. Barry Witter at (626) 458-4349.

Very truly yours,

DONALD L. WOLFE
Director of Public Works


DENNIS HUNTER
Assistant Deputy Director
Land Development Division

BSW:ca
P:\LDPU\STRANSPO\WITTER\SANTA MONICA CONSERVANCY



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead

Attachment D



Bruce W. McClelland FAICP
Director of Planning

Date: August 21, 2007

To: Ilona Volkmann
Administrator
Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District

From: Nooshin Paidar, AICP NP
Supervising Regional Planner
Land Development Coordinating Center
Department of Regional Planning

**REGIONAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT REVIEW: Santa Monica Mountains
Conservancy's Request For New Acquisition Projects, MRCA 3rd District Coastal
Slope Trail Parcels, July 2007**

Pursuant to your request, my staff has researched the attached list of proposed parcels for acquisition.

Several properties within the acquisition proposal are located within the jurisdiction of the City of Malibu. Our response below is not applicable to these parcels. (See attached.)

For all other parcels, we have indicated the particular Plan in which each parcel is located, its Plan category, and its current zoning designation (see attached). The proposed acquisitions of these parcels meet with the goals and objectives of the respective Plan and underlying zoning. We have consulted with County Counsel regarding the information which we are providing.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or Ms. Alice W. Wang of my staff at (213) 974-6470.

NP:aw

MRCRA 3rd District Coastal Slope Trail Parcels, July 2007

APN	Community Plan	Plan Category	Zoning
4465-014-070	Coast Plan (Malibu Local Coastal Program)	3 (Rural Land I: 1 du/10 acres), M2 (Mountain Land: 1 du/20 acres)	A-1-1 (Light agriculture- 1 AMRA)
4465-014-071	Coast Plan (Malibu Local Coastal Program)	3 (Rural Land I: 1 du/10 acres), M2 (Mountain Land: 1 du/20 acres)	A-1-1 (Light agriculture- 1 AMRA)
4467-003-044	(City of Malibu)		
4467-003-021	(City of Malibu)		
4467-003-031	(City of Malibu)		
4467-003-041	(City of Malibu)		
4468-014-006	(City of Malibu)		
4468-014-008	(City of Malibu)		
4468-015-001	(City of Malibu)		
4467-003-060	Coast Plan (Malibu Local Coastal Program)	3 (Rural Land I: 1 du/10 acres), 5 (Rural Land III: 1du/2 acres)	R-A-1 (Residential-Agriculture- 1 AMRA)
4467-003-042	Coast Plan (Malibu Local Coastal Program)	3 (Rural Land I: 1 du/10 acres), 5 (Rural Land III: 1du/2 acres)	R-A-1 (Residential-Agriculture- 1 AMRA)
4467-003-044	Coast Plan (Malibu Local Coastal Program)	3 (Rural Land I: 1 du/10 acres), 5 (Rural Land III: 1du/2 acres)	R-A-1 (Residential-Agriculture- 1 AMRA)
4467-003-060	Coast Plan (Malibu Local Coastal Program)	3 (Rural Land I: 1 du/10 acres), 5 (Rural Land III: 1du/2 acres)	R-A-1 (Residential-Agriculture- 1 AMRA)

APN: 4467-003-044

du- dwelling unit

AMRA- Acre Minimum required Area